

Hands-on training given at ALARA Center

To support the implementation of the amendment to 10 CFR 835, "Occupational Radiation Protection," the ALARA Center of Technology is conducting training on radiological containment installation, inspection and certification.

The focus of the training is intense, hands-on instruction for workers and radiological control technicians. As part of the course, students install and certify containment on mockups that simulate actual work conditions. This adds realism and exposes the students to various types of containment designs and radioactive liquid collection facilities.

Some basic work techniques are also taught and practiced. These include glove installation and change-out, pass-out sleeve installation and change-out, and safely passing items into and out of the containment using the sleeving.

The examination for the course is conducted by adding water to the installed mockup to verify that the water-tight seals installed by the students are correct.

"The class was great!" said Chuck Compestine, a senior RCT for the River Corridor Project. "It definitely applied to my job. I highly recommend it."

Jerry Eby and Larry Waggoner, the course instructors, have more than 72 years of combined experience in design, installation, removal and work practices for radiological containments in Naval shipyards and Department of Energy radiological sites. Waggoner and Eby provide many lessons they've learned from the "school of hard knocks."

Other training courses on intermediate and advanced contamination control techniques are being considered. Depending on the projects' needs, these courses would stress decontamination, containment removal, use and removal of double sets of protective clothing, use of HEPA-filtered ventilation and other advanced radiological work practices.

To schedule containment training, send e-mail to Jerald Eby. Class size is limited to six students because of the practical hands-on nature of the training. The course is free of charge. ♦



Students in the "Occupational Radiation Protection" class at the ALARA Center of Technology inspect materials (top) and then install and work with containment glove-bags.